

Cholsey Parish Council

MINUTES

Meeting	Wednesday 4 th January 2017 in the Pavilion, Station Road, Cholsey
Chair	Mr M. Gray
Attendees	Mrs M. Dyer-Lynch, Mrs V. Bolt, Mr J Hope-Smith, Mrs M. Kaposy, Mr P. Jenkins , Mr P. Ramsay, , Mrs A. Rowlands , Mr J. Adelson. 4 members of the public.
Apologies	Mr R. Whitfield, Mrs L. Hamlyn, Mrs I. Neill and Mrs L. Ivereigh.

152	<p>To hear questions or comments from members of the public</p> <p>Mr Sheldon thanked the Estate Manager and Cllrs Bolt and Ivereigh for attempting to rationalise the allotment rents. However he felt that established protocols had been ignored:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> “1. It is well established custom and practice (more than 50 years) for allotment rents to be determined at least a year in advance - usually, at the budget meeting about 14 months prior to implementation. 2. As a budget item, allotment rents must be agreed by a formal motion at a full council (budget) meeting. 3. A motion proposing rent increases for 2017 was passed in January, 2016 - less than a year from implementation - justified by a comparison with limited information from neighbouring parishes. 4. My investigation of allotment rents in the surrounding area gives a mixed picture and does not support increases in Cholsey. The situation nationwide is so diverse as to provide no precedent. Hence, another justification would need to be found. 5. There was no agreement to increase rents by 50p in 2017 (as stated in the Estate Manager's December 2016 report). 6. At the January 2016 meeting the PC also resolved to set up a Working Party to review allotment policy. I am not aware that this was done? In any case, WPs can only make recommendations for ratification by the full PC. 7. Since some plot-holders faced potential increases of as much as 40%, I anticipated challenges and raised the question of the measurement of plots at the meeting in February 2016; Councillors promised to consult on the issue. Councillors also agreed to include allotment holders in the 'Group' (Working Party?). 8. A discussion after the event cannot be construed as 'consultation'. 9. The Council will need to undertake a review of this administrative catastrophe. 10. Rents for 2018 will also need to be reviewed, although it may be too late to change them now. 11. Overt, demonstrable fairness is necessary in setting rents. 12. The reason that the allotment year was fixed to the calendar year was to avoid conflict with the end of financial year workload. <p>The way forward. It is possible that CAPA could measure the allotments for the Parish Council to provide a definitive basis for charging, in return for a S137 donation to their funds.”</p> <p>Mrs Bolt reported that a great deal of work had gone into rationalising the plots into small, medium and large plots. The plots had been paced out as it would take far too much time to measure each plot and produce a scale plan. The forthcoming consultation meeting will an opportunity to review the changes as necessary.</p> <p>Mr Hines outlined the following concerns about Planning Application P16/S4110/HH.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to the site both during and after completion of the work - the sewage pipe which rus under the drive and the proposed building - the parking arrangements on an already congested road - the proximity to his boundary - overall size of the development - overlooking <p>Mr Jones (the applicant) responded that he shares the concerns about the parking in Weedon Close and is keen to ensure the development will allow three off street parking places. He also confirmed that the width of the development is within planning regulations.</p>
153	<p>To receive any reports from County and/or District Councillors</p> <p>Mr Gray reported that there will be another £7m worth of cuts from the County Council though there will not be any new major reductions in services. There is likely to be a 4% increase in the County Council tax bill. The Daytime Support Consultation is ongoing.</p>
154	<p>To receive Declarations of Pecuniary Interest for any agenda items.</p> <p>There were none.</p>

155	<p>To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 23rd November and 7th December 2016 The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd November were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="231 280 1109 313"> <tr> <td>Proposed</td> <td>Mr Gray</td> <td>Seconded</td> <td>Mr Ramsay</td> <td>Carried</td> <td>5 in favour</td> </tr> </table> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 7th December were approved with two amendments as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="231 369 1109 403"> <tr> <td>Proposed</td> <td>Mr Gray</td> <td>Seconded</td> <td>Mr Ramsay</td> <td>Carried</td> <td>7 in favour</td> </tr> </table>	Proposed	Mr Gray	Seconded	Mr Ramsay	Carried	5 in favour	Proposed	Mr Gray	Seconded	Mr Ramsay	Carried	7 in favour																										
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156	<p>To report matters arising from a) The minutes of 7th December A full response has been submitted to SODC objecting to the East End Farm application. Mr Gray has met with neighbours of the proposed development and encouraged them to attend the planning meeting.</p> <p>b) The Action Point Register 15/116 – Cholsey Meadows Allotments. Mrs Bolt reported that the requested information has been sent to HCA but no response has been received. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to confirm the Parish Council wish to go ahead with letting the allotments and that the Public Liability insurance is in order. 16/050 Skate Park Project – on hold until new Youth Worker is appointed. 15/113 Agatha Christie signage – no funding is available.</p>																																						
157	<p>Planning a) To consider Planning Applications as at 30th November</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="231 806 1444 1680"> <tr> <td data-bbox="231 806 454 1086">P16/S4110/HH</td> <td data-bbox="458 806 1444 1086"> 8 Weedon Close – two storey side extension. Mr Jenkins took council through the plans. The proposal almost doubles the size of the property. Parking is a particular concern. Mr Gray pointed out that it would not be possible to park 3 cars off the road as the drawing suggests. 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It was therefore proposed by Mr Jenkins that a full council meeting be held on the third Wednesday of each month at which only planning would be discussed.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="231 1892 1197 1926"> <tr> <td>Proposed</td> <td>Mr Jenkins</td> <td>Seconded</td> <td>Mr Gray</td> <td>Carried</td> <td>Unanimously</td> </tr> </table>	P16/S4110/HH	8 Weedon Close – two storey side extension. Mr Jenkins took council through the plans. The proposal almost doubles the size of the property. Parking is a particular concern. Mr Gray pointed out that it would not be possible to park 3 cars off the road as the drawing suggests. After discussion Mr Jenkins recommended the Council give No Strong Views but note that the parking for 3 cars should be provided.	Proposed	Mr Jenkins	Seconded	Mrs Bolt	Carried	4 in favour 1 against 4 abstentions	P16/S4177/FUL	Demolition of existing buildings and erection of 5 dwellings Mr Jenkins took council through the plans. 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158	<p>Finance a) To approve accounts for payment Payment made between meetings.</p>																																						

Thames Water Allotments Station Road 205663 46.86

The accounts were reviewed and approved for payment

HMRC	PAYE & NI p/e 5th January	205664	£282.84
Virgin Media Payments	Phone & Broadband - December	205665	£57.43
Grundon Waste Management Ltd	Churchyard Waste - November	205666	£46.46
E. Lee	Manager Happy Hub December	205667	£480.00
GLS	Wellington Boots	205668	£23.88
C&WRPS	Membership	205669	£40.00
CPRE	Donation	205670	£100.00
South and Vale Carers	Donation	205671	£300.00
TOTAL			£1,330.61

Proposed	Mr Gray	Seconded	Mrs Bolt	Carried	Unanimously
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b) To note payments received

Noted

The current balances of the accounts were noted.

Current Account £34, 723.21

Reserve Account £42, 920.89

Projects Account £40,196.71

c) To agree the minutes of the finance meeting held on 15th November 2016

Noted

d) To agree bank signatories

It was agreed to remove the previous Clerk Ms Malcolm from the Bank mandate.

Proposed	Mr Gray	Seconded	Mr Adelson	Carried	Unanimously
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e) To agree to pay regular utility bills by direct debit

It was agreed to set up Direct Debit payments for regular utility bills.

Proposed	Mr Gray	Seconded	Mr Jenkins	Carried	Unanimously
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159 To receive the minutes of the Personnel Working Party held on 12th December 2016

The minutes of the Personnel Working Group were approved.

Proposed	Mrs Rowlands	Seconded	Mr Adelson	Carried	Unanimously
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160 To receive the CCDT end of year report

The CCDT end of your report was noted.

161 To discuss the future of the Fairmile Playground

It was agreed to write to HCA to confirm the transfer of the playground to the Parish Council.

162 To discuss responsible dog owner event

It was agreed that Mrs Bolt, Mr Gray and Mrs Ivereigh would launch the new night vision binoculars at a responsible dog event. Images from the binoculars could be used on the website.

163 To discuss SODC Review of Cholsey Parish Councillor numbers

The Parish Council requested a review of Parish Councillor numbers in 2014 following the boundary review. However with the recent expansion of the village it was agreed that numbers should remain the same.

Proposed	Mrs Bolt	Seconded	Mr Gray	Carried	Unanimously
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164 To receive the Estate Managers report for December

Council reviewed and noted the Estate Managers report.

To discuss the Cemetery Bench Policy

The draft bench policy was discussed and amendments made. The revised policy will be adopted at the next meeting.

The Clerk will outline the new policy to the resident who has been awaiting the outcome of the review.

165	<p>To receive list of recent correspondence and Publications and Notices</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LETTERS (including e-mails) 2. REPORTS, PLANS & STRATEGIES 3. NOTICES, POSTERS and FLYERS 4. MAGAZINES and NEWSLETTERS (i) TVP – Neighbourhood Policing Newsletter
166	<p>To receive news items or updates from the Chair</p> <p>Mr Gray reported that the First Steps Forward Learning Hub is moving forward from Abingdon and Witney College to provide more locally based courses the first of which is a three week budgeting course run by Christians Against Poverty.</p> <p>The COPA Cinema Club will show its first film on 17th January and twice monthly stretch classes will begin on 10th January.</p>
167	<p>To receive Councillors' Incident Reports and Items for future agenda</p> <p>Mr Adelson reported that there is still no cycle track signage on the Wallingford Road. Mr Gray will speak to Keith Stenning.</p> <p>Mr Adelson reported that it is possible to receive notifications of new planning applications in the parish directly from SODC. To be reported in the Village Voice.</p> <p>Mr Ramsay reported that one of the pavement bollards outside Tesco has been knocked over.</p> <p>Mrs Bolt reported that Station Road is very muddy and she is concerned that the gulleys will become blocked.</p> <p>Mr Gray reported that the County Council are carrying out an overhaul of the drains.</p> <p>Mr Hope-Smith reported that the Living Nativity had been well attended.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood plan Surveys have been distributed.</p> <p>Mr Jenkins reported that he had collected a large amount rubbish around Tesco.</p>